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## PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

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[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

*Summary of work in Chinatown and Latin quarter, San Francisco,  
for the week ended February 20, 1904.*

The following is received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue, under date of February 22:

Buildings reinspected.....	482
Rooms .....	2, 809
Persons inspected .....	2, 788
Sick .....	44
Sick prescribed for at Oriental Dispensary.....	7
Dead examined .....	12
Necropsies .....	5
Provisional diagnosis of plague (1 white, 1 Chinese).....	2
Rats examined bacteriologically.....	57
Number showing post infection.....	0
Places limed and disinfected .....	579
Times streets swept.....	3
Sewers flushed .....	16

No plumbing report for this week.

### *Measures for destruction of rats.*

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., *February 20, 1904.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Energetic measures for wholesale destruction of rats were decided upon at conference with State and city boards of health and representatives board of supervisors and merchants' association to-day. Money for purchase of Pasteur virus and other poisons was made immediately available. These will be used as soon as possible over large section of city.

BLUE.

### *Smallpox in Georgia.*

The following is received from Surgeon Brooks, at Savannah, under date of February 13:

Application was made to Dr. W. W. Owens, member of the State board of health in this city for information as to the amount of smallpox in this State, and to-day he permitted me to make a copy for you (herewith inclosed) of a letter from Dr. H. F. Harris, secretary of the board, embodying all the information obtainable.

[Inclosure.]

ATLANTA, GA., *February 12, 1904.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR: Your letter was received here while I was away, hence the delay in replying. It would be a very wild guess for me to say how many cases of

smallpox there are in Georgia now, but there can be no doubt that there are a great many. I do not doubt that there are thousands. Many people are dying; I have just received a telegram from Doctor Taylor saying that 7 persons have just died at a small town in Liberty County, and I have heard of some 30 in other places in the last few weeks; that these comprise a small percentage of the total number there can be no doubt. I think that all possible publicity should be given the matter, as few are really aware of the real conditions. We are having great difficulty in carrying out vaccination, the prejudice against it being so strong that I much doubt that we can ever do it properly under existing circumstances. A national law seems to me to be the only way in which the object can be arrived at.

Very cordially, yours,

H. F. HARRIS.

*Transactions on account of yellow fever at Laredo, Tex.*

The following telegram has been received from Acting Assistant Surgeon Frick, at Laredo, Tex.:

FEBRUARY 22, 1904.

Summary report of transactions for the week ended February 20: Fumigated, Laredo, 1 house, containing 10 rooms; Aguilares, 75 houses, containing 187 rooms; Ojuelos, 55 houses, containing 155 rooms.

INSPECTION SERVICE, MEXICAN BORDER.

*Inspection at El Paso, Tex.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Alexander reports, February 13, as follows: Week ended February 13, 1904. Inspection Mexican Central passengers, 177; inspection Mexican immigrants, 49; inspection Mexicans brought in bond, 52 men; inspection excursionists, special train, 57 persons; disinfection soiled linen imported for laundry, 371 pieces; disinfection of baggage, blankets, etc., of passengers coming from Aguas Calientes, Mexico, 34 pieces; fumigation, 2 carloads of cattle hides; vaccination of immigrants and their children, 13.

*Inspection at Laredo, Tex.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hamilton reports through Acting Assistant Surgeon Frick, February 15, as follows: Week ended February 13, 1904: Passenger trains from Mexico inspected, 14; passengers from Mexico inspected, 497; immigrants inspected, 5; persons vaccinated upon entry, 19; Pullman coaches disinfected, 7; day coaches disinfected by reason of having been occupied by person suffering with phthisis, 1; corpse accompanied by embalming certificate, 1.

*Statistical reports of States and cities of the United States—Yearly and monthly.*

CALIFORNIA—*Sacramento*.—Month of January, 1904. Estimated population, 30,000. Total number of deaths 56, including diphtheria 1, enteric fever 2, and 9 from phthisis pulmonalis.

CONNECTICUT.—Reports to the State board of health for the month of January, 1904, from 166 towns having an aggregate estimated population of 934,411, show a total of 1,428 deaths, including diphtheria 29, enteric fever 10, measles 28, scarlet fever 7, whooping cough 8, and 137 from phthisis pulmonalis.